

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01611 151600Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1611

EXDIS

E O 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PGOV WB GE GW US UR UK
SUBJ: FRENCH OBJECT TO FRG DISCUSSIONS WITH GDR AND SOVIETS ON
FLAG TOURS AND BERLIN STATUS

REF: BONN 9956 (EXDIS)

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM FRENCH AN ACCOUNT SIMILAR TO
REFTEL'S OF GAUS' CONVERSATION WITH SEIDEL AND BRAEUTIGAM'S
WITH KHOTULEV ON CDU RALLY, FLAG TOURS AND BERLIN
STATUS. FRENCH VERSION ADDS NOTHING NEW. IT
APPEARS FRENCH EMBASSY IN EAST BERLIN HAD ACCESS TO GAUS'
REPORTING CABLE.

2. FRENCH HERE ARE QUITE ANNOYED BY FRG PERMANENT
REPRESENTATION'S DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS AND GDR ON BERLIN
MATTERS WITHIN FOUR POWER COMPETENCE. FRENCH POLAD PERRIN
HAS SENT STRONG INTRA-BERLIN MESSAGE EXPRESSING HIS
BELIEF ALLIES MUST RESTORE PROPER CHANNELS FOR FOUR-
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POWER MATTERS IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFUSION AND IMPAIR-
MENT OF ALLIED INTERESTS. RATHER THAN BRING UP ISSUE IN
BONN GROUP, WHICH GAUS WOULD REGARD AS WRONG PLACE FOR A
REBUKE, PERRIN HAS SUGGESTED THAT ALLIED EMBASSIES IN
EAST BERLIN TOUCH UPON IT WITH BRAEUTIGAM AND THAT THE
THREE ALLIED MINISTERS RAISE IT WITH FRG REPRESENTATIVE
IN WEST BERLIN SPANGENBERG AND GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE.

KHOTULEV, IN FRENCH VIEW, SHOULD ALSO BE REMINDED THAT FOUR-POWER MATTERS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED WITH ALLIED MISSIONS IN WEST BERLIN, NOT FRG.

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT SHARE THE UNUSUAL FRENCH SENSITIVITY, WHICH IF FULLY INDULGED WOULD ALMOST EXCLUDE THE SUBJECT OF BERLIN FROM CONVERSATIONS OF GERMAN DIPLOMATS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD. HOWEVER, WE ARE DISPLEASED WITH GAUS AND BRAEUTIGAM RAISING THE PATROL CHALLENGE BOTH WITH THE SOVIETS AND THE EAST GERMANS. OUR OFFICIAL ATTITUDES ON THIS SUBJECT ARE THAT WE ARE SORRY IT WAS MADE AND WE WILL LEAVE IT CLOSED UNLESS THE SOVIETS, AS DEMANDEURS, REACTIVATE IT IT IS COMPLETELY INAPPROPRIATE TO BRING UP WITH THE EAST GERMANS A MATTER WHICH OUR EMBASSIES AVOID DISCUSSING WITH THEM. WE THINK IT WOULD BE GOOD TO EXPRESS SURPRISE TO THE FRG THAT THE EAST BERLIN REPRESENTATION IS SPONTANEOUSLY RAISING THE PATROL MATTER AT A TIME WHEN THE ALLIES ARE LETTING IT LIE DORMANT IN TALKS WITH THE RUSSIANS, LET ALONE THE EAST GERMANS. UNLIKE PERRIN, WE CONSIDER THE PLACE TO MAKE THESE POINTS WOULD BE IN BONN.

4. THERE MAY NOT BE TOO MUCH SIGNIFICANCE IN THE REMARKS OF KHOTULEV AND SEIDEL. THEY COULD MERELY BE EMPHATIC STATEMENTS MADE SOMEWHAT MORE EXTRAVAGANT TO CONFUSE OR PUT DOWN THE FRG INTERLOCUTORS. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

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